inter alia, incorporates the above scheme, has been accorded 'in-principle' approval by Planning Commission.

In order to take up various schemes for implementation by the Brahmaputra Board during 10th Five Year Plan, a provision of Rs. 42.00 crore has been made, out of which Rs. 5.00 crore has been provided for during 2003-04. The scheme under the short-term measures is proposed to be implemented under the above outlay during 10th Five Year Plan subject to clearance by SFC. As regard long-term measures, the implementation will depend upon the model study.

Action Plan for Flood control in Orissa

104. SHRI B.J. PANDA: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Central Government have drawn up an action plan, as permanent solution, to control floods in Orissa State; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) and (b) Flood Management being a State subject, investigation, planning and implementation of flood management schemes are within the purview of the State Government. The Central Government renders assistance which are technical, catalytical and promotional in nature.

As per information received from the Government of Orissa, they have drawn up an action plan for permanent solution to control floods in Orissa, the details of which are given as below :—

In the Mahanadi basin one major reservoir Hirakud on river Mahanadi and some medium projects on its tributaries are able to moderate a medium flood in its downstream. Further the State Government proposes to take up nine no. of projects *inter-alia* having flood control benefits. A proposal has been formulated by the State Government for raising and strengthening of embankments in the deltaic areas.

In the Brahmani Basin, besides a major reservoir at Rengali which is able to reduce considerably the flood havoc in its downstream, the State Government proposes to take up two more schemes in the basin.

In the Baitrani Basin, the Kanpur Irrigation Project on this river is being taken up by the State Government which will moderate flood to some extent. For permanent solution on flood control of this river another scheme is under investigation stage.

As regards Subarnarekha Basin, the Chandill Dam across river Subarnarekha in Jharkhand district is under construction. After completion of this project the flood havoc in Orissa due to this river can be reduced considerably.

The floods in other river basins *i.e.* Rushikulya Basin, Nagabali Basin, Vamsadhara Basin and Burhabalanga Basin are now being controlled by the flood protective embankments.

Water University in Rajasthan

105. MISS MABEL REBELLO:
SHRI B.J. PANDA:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a proposal to set up a Water University in Rajasthan, the first of its kind in the country;

(b) if so, the kind of training proposed to be imparted to the youth in water conservation, rainwater harvesting and water management etc.; and

(c) the details of other courses to be conducted in the colleges under this university and who would organise the entire system?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) No such proposal is under consideration of the Government at present.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Viability of Desalination Process

106. SHRI P. PRABHAKAR REDDY: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have carried out so far a research to find out the viability of desalination process as a proven option to augment the water resources in the water scarcity areas in the country;